(d) if so, what were the other main points mentioned in their demands?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) The Government has not received any unanimous demand, made by-State-run utilities along with private sector players regarding immediate steps to simplify land acquisitions and securing environmental and forest clearance. However, during various meetings with the Central Electricity Authority (CEA), State utilities as well as Independent Power Producers (IPPs) have expressed their concerns about problems faced in land acquisition and getting environmental/forest clearances. In case of forest clearance, the Project Developing Authorities have indicated that getting the requisite clearances takes long time.

(c) and (d) Other issues raised by the IPPs relate to non-availability of hydrological data, lack of power evacuation system, etc. Some IPPs have also raised the issue of non-availability of power at the construction stage and lack of infrastructural facilities, like road-connectivity and communication-system.

Grid and Off-grid solar power

454. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO:
Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has approved the setting up of a 1,100 MW grid solar power and 200 MW off-grid solar application utilizing both solar, thermal and photovoltaic technologies in the first phase of the Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission; and

(b) whether in addition, the Mission wilt also focus on R&D and Human resource Development to develop and strengthen Indian skills and to enhance indigenous content to make the Mission sustainable?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has approved the target for the first phase of the Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission, to set up 1,100 MW of grid connected solar plants, which includes 100 MW capacity plants to be set up as rooftop and small solar power plants. In addition, 200 MW capacity equivalent off-grid solar applications and 7 million square metre solar thermal collector area are also proposed in the first phase of the Mission, till March 2013. The Mission also provides for support to research and development in solar energy technologies and manpower development through training, fellowships and education about solar energy technologies and applications.

National policy on climate change

*455. SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to make a national policy on climate change;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) National Environment Policy, 2006 outlines essential elements of India's response to climate change. There, *inter-alia,* include adherence to principle of common but differentiated responsibility and respective capabilities of different countries, identification of Key vulnerabilities of India to climate change, in particular impacts on water resources, forests, coastal areas, agriculture and health, assessment of the need for adaptation to climate change and encouragement to the Indian Industry to participate in the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM).

Further, to address the urgent and critical concern of the country a National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) was released on 30th June 2008 to outline India's strategy to meet the challenge of Climate Change. The National Action plan outlines eight Missions in specific areas of Solar Energy, Enhanced Energy Efficiency, Sustainable Habitat, Water, Sustaining the Himalayan Eco-system, Green India, Sustainable Agriculture and Strategic knowledge for Climate Change. All the National Missions have provision to revisit existing policies and regulatory options to support for achieving key goals in the context of climate change.

The objectives of the eight National Missions also support India's policies for sustainable development, by way of promotion of energy efficiency, appropriate mix of fuels and primary energy sources including nuclear, hydro and renewable sources, energy pricing, pollution abatement, afforestation, mass transport, besides differentially higher growth rates of less energy intensive services sectors as compared to manufacturing, results in a relatively Greenhouse Gas benign growth path.

Solar energy for remote village electrification programme

†*456. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that proposals for generation of solar energy from different States have been received under Remote Village Electrification Programme during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the latest position thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. State-wise details of proposals received and sanctioned under Remote Village Electrification Programme of the Ministry during the last 3 years are given in the Statement-I *(See* below). In addition, the Coordination Committee for the Programme has also accorded approval to projects whose detaus are given in the Statement-II.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.